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6 June 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Human Resources Committee

SUBJECT: State's Request for Representation on the
OSCOL Working Group

1. In the attached memo State repeats their earlier recommendation that there be a full time State representative on the OSCOL Working Group. As we discussed the first time, acceptance of this recommendation would generate certain problems which I feel should be avoided if some other way can be found to keep State abreast of developments and enable them to participate directly when appropriate.

2. The OSCOL Working Group action program concept calls for working group representation on a functional basis, rather than on an organizational basis, in the interest of keeping the working group small and working rapidly to complete the ad-hoc job. Accordingly, I have turned back similar "strong recommendations" from Army and NSA for direct representation on the working group. I see little merit in any organizational entity being represented on the working group as a matter of form. Similarly, the argument that State should participate actively in all activities of the working group on the basis of State's role in Community open source collection activities is not very persuasive. While their role is important, and I do not mean to imply otherwise, they have a lot of company center stage in the OSCOL arena as can be seen in the attachment hereto.

3. It is possible that we inadvertently misled State on one important point. It is not self-evident in the working group action program which we circulated, that the proposed initial staffing of the working group corresponds with the issues to be discussed initially, to wit: who is doing what for whom (my action); potential for internetting the LC/FRD and the FBIS [redacted] the possibility of internetting selected libraries in OSCOL activities supportive of national intelligence production (Dr. Dodge); the intelligence analyst's view of how much OSCOL is enough (NFAC's [redacted] assisted by a panel of intelligence analysts from CIA,

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State/INR and DIA); improving collection, translation, abstracting, storage and retrieval in support of S&T intelligence production (group action); and possibilities for better orchestrating human, machine-aided, and machine translation [redacted] of this staff).

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4. My thinking is that as the issues before the working group change, the composition of the working group will change also; some persons will want to drop out and other program managers will be called in to participate. If my initial who-is-doing-what-for-whom search turns up an apparent issue or opportunity in the IMPAC area, for example, we would want appropriate State and CIA representation in the working group for the duration of work on those topics. Community OSCOL activities that do not appear to harbor problems or opportunities for improvement do not need to receive attention from the ad hoc working group, although they likely would receive routine attention by whatever permanent OSCOL sub-element the HRC eventually establishes. I feel that in the main the working group should concentrate on Washington area functional problems and opportunities pertinent to NFIP planning, and to the formulation of specific recommendations for HRC and D/DCI/CT consideration. That is the only way that we can hope to conclude this task this summer.

5. On balance I still do not favor bringing State into the working group at the outset because the State person would have no specific inquiry to chair. However, I propose to maintain a running report to State and other HRC members on working group activities, and alert specific members to forthcoming working group sessions that they may wish to monitor.

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[redacted]

Overseas collection to support S&T production also does not lend itself to working group attention at this time because the STIC report is not complete. I have not seen the "final draft" now being circulated, but it seems likely to me that whatever HRC action may be required relative to the STIC report may be self-evident and not require attention by this working group, although that remains to be seen.

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6. May I suggest that you discuss these matters with State's HRC representative before making a decision on his recommendation.

[Redacted Signature]

Staff Coordinator

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